

**CITY OF MOORHEAD  
PARK ADVISORY BOARD  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 21, 2009  
Moorhead Sports Center  
324 24<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Moorhead, Minnesota 56560**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Moorhead Park Advisory Board (PAB) was held at the Moorhead Sports Center, Moorhead, Minnesota, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2009.

**Members Present:** Randy Bach, Heidi Durand, Lila Hazemann, Greg Lemke, Ron Schneider, Rick Stotts, Diane Wray-Williams

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Larry Anderson, Parks and Forestry Division Manager; Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Karen Stremick, Office Specialist, Mark Hintermeyer, Moorhead City Council

**Visitors Present:** Jeff Miller, Field of Dreams Committee; Del Jordahl, Field of Dreams Committee/RL Engebretson Architects; Don Beutler, Red River Valley Softball Association; John Welsch, Red River Valley Softball Association

**2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

None

**3. MINUTES – March 18, 2009**

Bach motioned to approve the minutes of the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 PAB Meeting, seconded by Stotts. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

None

**5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

None

**6. MATSON FIELD UPDATE**

Jeff Miller was present from the Field of Dreams committee to update the PAB on the progress at Matson Field. All items in Phase 1 of the Matson Field renovation plan have been completed. These items include the new dugouts, the retaining wall and the safety nets. Miller stated that fundraising for Phase 2 is down; however, they are starting a new campaign called "1,000 for 1,000" that is currently being announced on local radio stations.

Miller stated that \$300,000 has been raised so far which included funding from the City and the grant from the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Project costs to date total

\$270,000. The original project including Phases 1 through 3 was projected at \$1.8million. Miller invited PAB to have a member attend their meetings. This person

could update the PAB on the projects progress and act as a liaison between the two groups.

A motion was made by Lemke to have Rick Stotts attend the Field of Dreams Committee Meetings and act as a liaison between the PAB and the Committee. The motion was seconded by Bach. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

**7. DEHUMIDIFICATION SYSTEM GRANT SUBMITTAL-MOORHEAD SPORTS CENTER**

Staff informed the PAB that a grant application could be submitted to improve the dehumidification system within the Moorhead Sports Center. The grant funding is part of the federal stimulus package. During tournaments, when both sheets are in use, there is fogging issues within the arenas. Improving the dehumidification system would help rectify this issue and allow the facility to sell additional summer ice. Arenas in the Minneapolis/St Paul metro area have received funding to improve the humidification systems in a cost effective manner. Stevens Engineering from Minneapolis would be writing the grant application and would only be compensated if the grant was awarded.

A motion was made by Bach recommending that the Moorhead City Council allow Staff to submit a grant application for funds to improve the dehumidification system at the Moorhead Sports Center. The motion was seconded by Durand. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

**8. FLOOD UPDATE**

Anderson updated the PAB on the status of park land flooding in Moorhead. All Gooseberry Mound Park reservations for May have been cancelled and June is questionable. The park will not be accessible to staff until the water level is at 29 feet; however, Anderson was able to view the park from the west side of the river. The Large Shelter was completely covered in water which could result in extensive repairs and only the roof of the Small Shelter was visible. Damages will be unknown until staff is able to access the park and any damages resulting from the flood will be submitted to FEMA for reimbursement. The Hjemkomst Center was surrounded by a ring dike and closed to the public. Revenue losses will be submitted to FEMA. The buildings in Riverfront Park, Woodlawn Park, and the Log Cabin were all flooded and damages will be submitted to FEMA. The new location for Trollwood Performing Arts sustained water under the stage. Water did not get into their main buildings. Landscaping that was to assist in flood protection was not completed last fall as anticipated. The Meadows and Village Green Golf Courses have both opened for the season.

**9. RED RIVER VALLEY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION-UTILITY FEE**

Red River Valley Softball Association (RRVSA) was present to request the utility fee for the Centennial Athletic Complex Concession Stands be waived. The fee is new this year in the amount of \$1,000.00. John Welsch, President of RRVSA stated that his organization was not aware that a utility fee would be assessed until after they had already established their participation fees for 2009. He said their organization was not

opposed to paying the fee in the future when they could adjust their participation fee to help pay for the utility fee.

PAB members were concerned that waiving the fee for RRVSA would set a precedent for other organizations who might request fee waivers. Although there were some PAB members who felt that the fee should be waived since RRVSA was not aware of the fee until they received their new contract in January and that they had already established their 2009 participation fees, an exception might be appropriate.

A motion was made by Lemke to deny the request made by RRVSA to waive the utility fee for 2009. The motion was seconded by Durand. Durand, Hazemann, Lemke, Schneider, Stotts and Wray-Williams were in favor of the motion, Bach was opposed; the motion carried.

**10. UPDATE/INFORMATION**

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Stremick  
Office Specialist  
Moorhead Parks and Recreation